Statement

Allocation and Offtake of Foodgrains under TPDS of Jharkhand for the period 2004-2005 to 2006-2007

(In thousand tons)

Year	Commodity	Allocation			Offtake		
		BPL	AYY	Total BPL+AAY	BPL	AAY	Total BPL+AAY
2004-2005	Rice	483.016	113.120	596.136	163.032	91.673	254.705
	Wheat	318.096	91.260	409.356	202.882	75.993	278.875
	Total	801.112	204.380	1,005.492	365.914	167.666	533.580
2005-2006	Rice	448.992	168.960	617.952	173.360	150.030	323.390
	Wheat	251.232	136.308	387.540	207.550	132.600	340.150
	Total	700.224	305.268	1,005.492	380.910	282.630	663.540
2006-2007	Rice	512.322	183.340	695.662	274.117	180.250	454.367
	Wheat	187.902	121.928	309.830	153.855	119.016	272.871
	Total	700.224	305.268	1,005.492	427.972	299.266	727.238

Reduction in quota of foodgrains to BPL families

†836. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to reduce quota of foodgrains to BPL families; and

(b) if so, the details of the quota of foodgrains being issued to BPL families at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, question does not arise.

Effect of organized retails trading on price rise

837. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent past witnessed a steep increase of price;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and the measures taken by Government to help the consumers;

(c) whether it is a fact that this is the period of vast expansion in organized retail trading; and

(d) whether this increase in organized retail trading added momentum to the price rise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Increase in domestic price rise has been mainly due to inflation in some food articles mainly rice, tur dal and edible oils witnessed globally due to inadequate supplies in relation to demand, diversion of food grains to bio-fuel and animal feed and, production losses due to inclement weather conditions. Some Increase in prices of some food articles such as rice and pulses in the country is also on account of hike in Minimum Support Price (MSP), bonus and decline in domestic production. Government is closely monitoring movement in prices of essential commodities such as wheat, pulses & edible oil and has responded by taking a series of measures such as (i) augmentation of availability of wheat through imports and banning export of wheat; (ii) protecting vulnerable sections of society through Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) and Antodaya Anna Yojana (AAY); (iii) reduction in Customs duty on import of pulses to zero; (iv) banning export of pulses; (v) initiating imports of pulses through the State agencies such as NAFED, PEC Ltd., MMTC and STC; (vi) directing Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to import edible oils and to augment edible oils availability in the domestic market; (vii) reducing import duty on crude sunflower oil, crude palm oil (CPO) and Soya oils; (viii) as a matter of abundant caution, delisted all contracts of wheat, rice, tur and urad from commodity futures Exchanges.

(c) and (d) As per the GDP estimates at constant prices (base 1999-2000) released by the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO), the growth rate in GDP of trade sector as a whole has been estimated at 8.1% during the year 2005-06. Separate official estimates of rate growth of the share of retail sector and organized retail in GDP are not available. No studies have been conducted by the Government to assess whether the increase in organized retail trading added momentum to the price rise.

Rise in prices of essential commodities

838. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent past saw a continuous rise in price of essential commodities;

(b) if so, the reason therefor and the details thereof in comparison to the price of essential commodities from May, 2004 to January, 2008;

(c) the steps initiated by Government to control the price rise and also to affect the impact of price on consumers;

(d) whether Government is considering to strengthen the PDS system and expand it in the view of steep price hike; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) There has been no continuous increase in Prices of essential commodities. While comparing the prices of essential commodities from May, 2004 to January, 2008 for 4 Metros, it has been observed that retail prices of sugar had